

PRESS RELEASE | Torino, 1 December 2020

## Artissima 2020 Alessandro Scarabello is the winner of the 10th edition of the Ettore and Ines Fico Prize

Torino, 1 December 2020 – [Alessandro Scarabello](#) (Rome, 1979) is the winner of the 10th edition of the **Ettore and Ines Fico Prize**, the award promoted by the **MEF Museo Ettore Fico** in Torino. The Prize is devoted to a young artist selected among the ones presented at Artissima 2020.

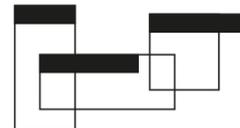
Alessandro Scarabello is presented by [The Gallery Apart](#) in Rome.

The prize is awarded by a jury consisting of **Andrea Busto**, President and Director of MEF Museo Ettore Fico in Torino, and from the **Artistic Direction** of the Museum with this motivation:

*Alessandro Scarabello represents a new spirit in Italian painting. The roots of his research extend into the depths of the international European culture of the last two centuries, drawing energy from the loftiest and most refined art history. A serial accumulator, voracious and tireless, his works convey an impressive quantity of aesthetic information, ranging from Balthus to Luc Tuymans, Scipione to the later Titian. In his paintings everything is layered in a composition on the borderline between figuration and abstraction. As the sum of repeated glazing, his encaustic technique incorporates memories, fragments and citations from a boundless human museum in which “mastery” becomes an integral, irreplaceable part of the artist’s work. Alessandro Scarabello is one of the young Italian talents capable of engaging in a dialogue, on equal terms, with the international contemporary avant-gardes.*

The Prize is assigned to a young artist among those presented for the occasion of Artissima, whom the artistic direction of MEF deems outstanding for the poetics of his or her creative practice. The winner will be offered the possibility of presenting his research **in the spaces of MEF during the course of 2021**.

In the past editions the prize has been assigned to Guglielmo Castelli presented by Francesca Antonini gallery, Rome and Rolando Anselmi gallery, Berlin, Rome, in 2019; Georgia Sagri presented by Anthony Reynolds gallery, London, in 2018; David Douard presented by Chantal Crousel gallery, Paris, in 2017; Gian Maria Tosatti presented by Lia Rumma gallery, Milan, Naples, in 2016; Anne Imhof presented by Isabella Bortolozzi gallery, Berlin, in 2015; Lili Reynaud-Dewar presented by Emanuel Layr gallery, Vienna, in 2014; Petrit Halilaj, presented by Chert, Berlin, in 2013.



#### **ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY**

**Alessandro Scarabello** (Rome, 1979) lives and works in Italy and Belgium.

Alessandro Scarabello's work is inspired by elements of classicism linked to theatre, masks, myth and statuary. In his latest production, the attention to corporeality opens to suggestions of abstraction. Scarabello takes the viewer to the edge that separates the abstraction of ideas from the concreteness of the narrative. He subtracts any literal reference from the image and brings the viewer back to the origin of the forces that generated it.

Scarabello has exhibited in numerous institutional venues including the Royal Museums of Fine Arts in Brussels, the PAC and the Royal Palace in Milan, Palazzo Collicola in Spoleto, Palazzo delle Esposizioni in Rome and the Italian Cultural Institute in Brussels. One of his largest solo exhibitions, curated by Marcello Smarrelli, took place at Palazzo della Corgna in Castiglione del Lago in 2019. Scarabello has been invited to several biennials, including the Bienal del fin del mundo in South America, the Biennial of Mediterranean Countries in Alexandria, Egypt, the Tunis Biennial and the Monza Biennial of Young Artists.

He was twice a finalist of Premio Cairo (2003 and 2019) and three times a finalist of Premio Terna (2008, 2009 and 2010). In 2017, he was a finalist for the Mediatine Prize in Brussels.

Together with fellow artists Serena Fineschi and Laura Viale, Scarabello founded and directs MODO asbl, a cultural association located in the centre of Brussels, with the aim of stimulating, enriching and renewing the debate on the centrality and importance of the work of art in a context crowded with digital images.

Alessandro Scarabello holds an MFA from the Royal Academy of Fine Arts (KASK) in Ghent and a BFA from the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome. Since the beginning of his career, he has been represented by The Gallery Apart in Rome, which has dedicated seven solo shows to him, the last in 2019 under the title *I Still Paint*.

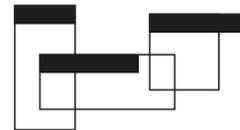
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**Artissima** // Artissima is Italy's leading fair of contemporary art. Since its founding in 1994, it has combined presence on the international market with a vivid focus on experimentation and research.

The fair is managed by Artissima srl, a company affiliated with Fondazione Torino Musei. The Artissima trademark belongs to Regione Piemonte, Città Metropolitana di Torino and Città di Torino. The 27th edition of Artissima is produced with the support of the three trademark holders, in collaboration with Fondazione CRT, Fondazione per l'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea CRT, Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo and Camera di commercio di Torino.



**ARTISSIMA**



## **Artissima Unplugged @Digital**

**Artissima XYZ ([xyz.artissima.art](http://xyz.artissima.art))**

3 November – 9 January 2021

**Online catalogue ([artissima.art](http://artissima.art))**

5 November – 9 January 2021

**3D virtual tours ([artissima.art](http://artissima.art))**

14 November – 9 January 2021

## **ARTISSIMA – International Fair of Contemporary Art**

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